

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: DAVID, MOSES M.

Application No.: 10/023267

Group Art Unit: 1771

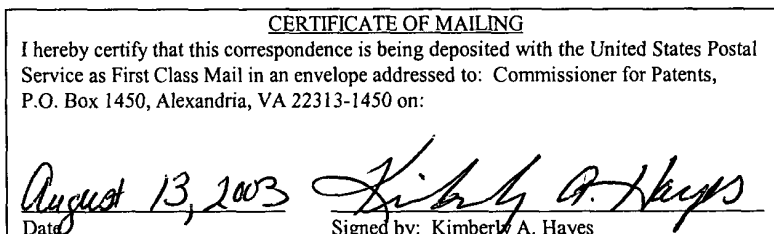
Filed: December 14, 2001

Examiner: Hai Vo

Title: PLASMA TREATMENT OF POROUS MATERIALS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 16, 2003. Claims 1-22 are pending, and were restricted under 35 USC § 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-16 are said to be drawn to a method of modifying the hydrophilicity of a porous article; and
- II. Claims 17-22 are said to be drawn to an article.

Election

In response, Applicants provisionally elect Group 1, with traverse.

Reconsideration and withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

The Restriction Requirement on page 2 states:

Group I has a special technical feature directed to a grounded electrode not required for Group II. Group II has a special technical feature directed to a pore size ranging from 0.05 to 1.5 microns not required for Group I.

Applicants submit that the Groups I and II are so interrelated that a search of one group of claims will reveal art to the other. Were restriction to be effected between the claims in Groups I and II, a separate examination of the claims in Groups I and II would require substantial